

include depression, bi-polar disorder, anxiety disorders and schizophrenia.

Ms. Gretick has attended and reported on annual conferences of the Depression, Bi-Polar Support Alliance (DBSA) and the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI). She has served as a liaison with national and state mental health organizations such as NAMI and DBSA and also the Ohio Depression Awareness, Recognition and Treatment (DART) organization. She has been instrumental in providing regular educational programming on depression at the Correction Center of Northwest Ohio (CCNO) and the Juvenile Detention and Rehabilitation Center.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying special tribute to Caroline Gretick. Our communities are served well by having such honorable and giving citizens, like Caroline, who care about their well being and stability. We wish Caroline and her family all the best as we proudly pay tribute to her accomplishments.

LEGISLATION TO PROVIDE FUNDS FOR THE REPAIR OF HOMES DAMAGED BY HURRICANES

HON. FRANK W. BALLANCE, JR.

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. BALLANCE. Mr. Speaker, today I am joined by my colleagues Representatives WALTER JONES, MIKE MCINTYRE, and BOB ETHERIDGE, in introducing legislation to provide elderly residents of North Carolina affected by floods with resources to repair their homes. Despite the fact that several years have passed, the effects of the catastrophic flooding from a succession of hurricanes in the late 1990s continue to be felt in North Carolina even today.

Thousands of North Carolinians suffered major damage to their homes and have yet to make the necessary repairs. As is often the case in situations like this, it is those who are already vulnerable who are affected most. In this case, the elderly have suffered disproportionately. Because many of the elderly are on fixed incomes, their ability to pay for home repairs is often limited.

The late 1990s were an incredibly challenging time for Eastern North Carolina. For several years in a row, hurricanes struck our communities with torrential winds and tremendous rains. Hurricane Floyd alone was responsible for 51 storm-related deaths in North Carolina, the destruction of over 7,000 homes, and made 17,000 additional homes uninhabitable. Overall damage to the state of North Carolina was estimated at over \$6 billion dollars, making it the most costly natural disaster in the history of North Carolina. The hurricane flooded a combined area of 18,000 square miles, an area roughly twice the size of Vermont.

This legislation gives to the North Carolina Commissioner of Agriculture the authority to provide funds to low-income seniors in Eastern North Carolina for the purpose of home repair. The need is considerable. In fact, rural development officials in Raleigh tell me that they have over \$1 million in pending applications from the elderly seeking to repair their homes but zero resources with which to ad-

dress this matter. This legislation gives to the state of North Carolina the ability to respond to this need.

Though Hurricane Floyd may be just a memory to many, the residents of Eastern North Carolina continue to confront the challenge of rebuilding our communities on a daily basis. This legislation is a modest but important step that will enable our senior citizens to remain in their homes and to make the improvements necessary to render them habitable once again.

I am happy to say that this bipartisan legislation is founded on the shared recognition of both Republicans and Democrats that much work remains to be done to recover from the flooding that devastated our communities and I thank my colleagues for joining me in this effort. Our junior Senator, Mr. EDWARDS, is also a part of this effort and was recently successful in including language that is identical to this bill in an appropriations bill that is expected to be completed within several weeks. The bipartisan support for this bill is proof that the Edwards language should remain in the bill that the President will eventually sign.

TRIBUTE TO ANN S. MILLER AND TED MALIARIS

HON. JOHN E. SWEENEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. SWEENEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize Ted Maliaris and his mother, Ann S. Miller, for their patriotic effort in promoting their "A Tribute to America Tour."

Following the events of September 11, mother and son team Ann Miller and Ted Maliaris wrote and produced the song "A Tribute to America—A 21st Century Anthem" in hopes of lifting the spirits of the American public and members of our armed forces. These lyrics stand as a monument to the pride of the American people:

Our tears may fall and our hearts may be shattered, but deep down in our souls we are

Strong, we are proud, we are bold.

We have freedom in our land, we will fight for our rights, we will stand up for the brotherhood of man.

America America America
America you're Grand

We have the strength, we have the power, no terrorist could ever withstand.

We will not hide, we will not cower, we will stand up for the rights of our land.

We're America, America
Strong, Proud, Brave, Bold
We're America, America
Strong, Proud, Brave, Bold
America red, white and blue
America, this song we sing for you

In times of need, compassion fills our hearts, in times of dismay we are strong. We're a land of freedom, a land of peace, and no one can take this away.

We're America, America, America
America you're Grand

No one can destroy us through thick or thin we're a nation that was built to survive No terrorist plight can destroy our sight or the strength of this motherland.

We're America, America, America
America you're Grand

God extended his hand and has given us faith, for we will stand tall and proud. We're a land of freedom, a land of peace, a land like no other land.

We're America, America
Strong, Proud, Brave, Bold
We're America, America
Strong, Proud, Brave, Bold
America, America you're Grand America,
America you're Grand

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully urge the House to join me in paying tribute to these two fine Americans: Ann S. Miller and Ted Maliaris.

TRIBUTE TO CULVER-STOCKTON COLLEGE

HON. KENNY C. HULSHOF

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. HULSHOF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 150th anniversary of Culver-Stockton College, which is located in Canton, Missouri.

Culver-Stockton College was founded as Christian University by early leaders of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Canton, Missouri was chosen as the school's location based on the close proximity to the Mississippi River and the enthusiasm for higher education shared by the Lewis County Disciples. The State of Missouri issued the college's charter on January 28, 1853. In 1917, Christian University was renamed Culver-Stockton College to honor benefactors Mary Culver and Robert Stockton.

Culver-Stockton's visionary founders were clearly ahead of their time. The school was the first college chartered west of the Mississippi River to educate both men and women. As both Christian University and Culver-Stockton College, the school has compiled a proud record of accomplishment and has made a meaningful contribution to the community throughout its history.

The forward-thinking ideas that are the foundation for Culver-Stockton College still influence the school today. Culver-Stockton is a 4-year residential, coeducational college that asks its students to realize their full potential. The college's alumni are living proof of the professional, personal and social service development that is cultivated on Culver-Stockton's campus. The college's administration, faculty and staff are committed to educational excellence, character development, and the integration of liberal arts.

In recent years, Culver-Stockton has achieved distinctions that include being named one of America's Best Christian Colleges, inclusion in the Templeton Foundation's "Colleges that Encourage Character Development" and membership in the Lilly Fellows Program in Humanities and the Arts.

With its Sesquicentennial Gala Week, Culver-Stockton College launches a year-long celebration of its 150-year history. This provides the opportunity to not only reflect on the school's past contributions, but to appreciate the important role the college continues to play in educating our future leaders. I congratulate both Culver-Stockton's administration and student body on achieving this milestone in education history.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM RYUN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. RYUN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, regretably, yesterday my flight was delayed and I was unable to return to the House in time to vote on H. Res. 25, and H. Res. 26. I ask unanimous consent that the RECORD reflect that had I been present for the votes, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 13, H. Res. 26, and "yea" on rollcall No. 14, H. Res. 25.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS
OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS**HON. RAHM EMANUEL**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 26, a resolution honoring the contributions of Catholic schools. I am pleased to have voted for this bipartisan resolution when it was passed unanimously by the House of Representatives last night.

The tremendous success of Catholic schools is evident around the country and particularly in the Fifth Congressional District of Illinois where outstanding scholastic progress has been achieved in schools like St. Ferdinand Catholic Elementary, St. Patrick High School, and Notre Dame High School for Girls. These schools provide strong academic curriculum and engender significant parental involvement. They not only teach students the importance of academic achievement, but also provide a balanced perspective on life that promotes responsibility, justice and social service.

Catholic schools also promote ethnic and racial diversity. Increasing numbers of children in Catholic schools in my district come from our minority communities. We must also recognize that students in Catholic schools are achieving exceptionally high graduation rates with increasing numbers advancing to higher education and giving back to the community through volunteer service.

It is also important to recognize that the Catholic school experience fosters more than just scholastic excellence. It provides spiritual guidance to students by encouraging fundamental ideals and an appreciation for family values, community service, and faith in their own lives. This, in turn, shapes Catholic school students into leaders of tomorrow.

Mr. Speaker, I support this important resolution and encourage Catholic schools in my district and across the United States to continue contributing to the development of strong moral, intellectual and social values in America's young people.

EXPLANATION

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, on January 27, 2003, I was in my Congress-

sional District in Rhode Island and consequently I missed two votes.

Had I been here I would of voted: "yes" on H. Res. 25 and "yes" on H. Res. 26.

PRE-BUTTAL TO PRESIDENT
BUSH'S STATE OF THE UNION
ADDRESS**HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit for inclusion into the RECORD a copy of a letter sent to President Bush on Monday, January 27, 2003. In the letter, I express my views as a "pre-buttal" to President Bush's State of the Union Address on Tuesday, January 28, 2003.

JANUARY 27, 2003.

Hon. GEORGE W. BUSH,
The White House,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: For the past few weeks, I have been away from my Washington office recovering from a surgical procedure. This time away has allowed me to live as a normal American outside of Capitol Hill. I have been an ear and a shoulder for my constituents and many normal/working people who are concerned and worried about the economy, civil rights, education, war and other legitimate fears. These conversations have compelled me to share the thoughts and sentiments of numerous citizens who have telephoned, faxed and e-mailed me about the dismal state of our Union.

Mr. President, have you not noticed that there are others, actually the majority, in this country that do not subscribe to your very Republican morals, issues, and policies? On Tuesday when you speak to the nation, please tell us the real state of our Union and what you plan to do about it! The current situation under your leadership can be better labeled as a state of DISUNION . . . especially as it refers to your party's policies and positions on war, civil rights and the overall domestic agenda.

In these times of domestic disarray and homeland alarm, you are acting as a playground bully picking fights on a global scale when there are more pressings issues in your own front yard. There is little doubt that world issues are very serious and unsettling today. But, the United States of America can not serve as world police, especially now when we are faced with a continuing battle for basic civil rights, the education of our children and the safety of our families right here at home. President Bush, you are taking a hard position and standing your ground on the wrong issues . . . and you're standing nearly alone. Major United Nations member countries have expressed their displeasure with your insistence upon a personal vendetta against Saddam Hussein. It is estimated that a new Bush war with Iraq will cost this country \$6 billion to \$9 billion per month! Wouldn't that money be better spent securing prescription drug coverage for our seniors, keeping hospitals open and operational or funding programs like No Child Left Behind and the Vote America Act that have cleared the legislative process but stand stagnant due to frozen resources.

Wouldn't this country's most important resource, our young people, be better utilized as productive, college-educated members of society rather than soldiers in a war that nobody wants? Your insensitive, detached administration recently demonstrated its mis-

guided position on civil rights in higher education for minorities and women. President Bush, your own educational career was aided by preferential treatment. The only difference between the University of Michigan's admissions policy and your educational career is that the Bush special treatment was based on affirmative influence rather than affirmative action. The Michigan policy is not far removed for other points systems that award advantages to the children of board members, graduates of the institution and major donors to the university. Your hypocritical stance on the Michigan guidelines totally ignored the fact that policies of this sort are more than necessary and only start to alleviate the social and economic shortfalls of the citizens they are designed to assist. Millions of people are concerned that with the recent attack on affirmative action will come an overall evaporation of all civil rights for minorities and women. Mr. President, would you please tell the American people how you plan to promote the attainment of diverse student bodies at institutions of higher education? We must equal the educational opportunities for less fortunate citizens so that those without the affirmative influence of a U.S. President and a grandfather who sits on the board of trustees at Yale can earn a quality/marketable education as well.

Armed with such an education and life training, less affluent citizens will go on to have better paying jobs that will allow them to spend more on the necessities and spoils of life. What better way to stimulate the economy than to put more money in the hands of the largest section of the population of this country . . . the middle class American? Your new proposed tax plan would do nothing for the working American. Tax cuts will only put money in the pockets of those who already have it. Didn't you learn anything from your 2001 tax cuts which reversed the positive progression of the economy that was cultivated by the last administration and managed to bankrupt the country in record time? The Federal budget under your management has gone from a \$236 billion surplus to a \$159 billion deficit in merely 2 years . . . a \$395 billion swing of our economic prosperity. Have you learned nothing from the \$10 billion shortfall facing the state of Texas caused by your tax cuts as its governor? If we always do the same things we've always done, we will always get the same results we've always gotten! Mr. President, please tell us, the American people what you plan to do to regain the confirmed economic success of the Clinton administration that promoted the lowest unemployment numbers in decades, garnered higher wages and home purchases for the middle class, and saw industry and the stock markets flourish. Please address the fact that millions of Americans have lost their jobs, with their children being forced to leave college to come home to foreclosed homes and bankrupt parents.

What "is" the true state of the Union? Mr. President, knowing your heart and compassion as I know it, would you please address the very real issues I've put forth for and with the American people. We all would like to hear a plan that will benefit the masses and put us back on the path to financial stability, civil and social equality, and PEACE at home and abroad.

Sincerely,

EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON,
Member of Congress.